



**Mechanical and Plumbing Board
APPROVED MINUTES**

**BOARD MEETING
December 18, 2018**

The Mechanical and Plumbing Board convened on Tuesday December 18, 2018 at One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, Suite 300, Austin, TX.

Robert Thornton, Chair, called the Meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Robert Thornton, Stephen Cox, Joseph Cooper, Basheer Mohamed, Michael Hart, David Nichols, Joseph Hernandez and Joseph Bowie **Absent members** were Jerry Garza, David Dixon and William Harris.

Staff Members in Attendance: Rick Arzola, Rick Holloway, Richard Anderson, Beth Culver and Tony Hernandez

1. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION** – No Citizen Communication
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from the October 23, 2018 meeting was approved as written on a motion from Board Member Hart second by Cooper for a 8-0 vote.
3. **DISCUSSION AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION:**
 - a. **Water Heaters-** Board staff reviews comments from Austin Energy in relating to an ordinance about not using electric resistance water heaters when gas is in the ROW. AE confirms that you are not forced to use gas if it is in the ROW you can use the exception by using a 3500 water element and still manage electric resistance heating.
 - b. **Garage Exhaust/Intake-** Clarification is being requested from the board to the City of Austin in which an ordinance should be modified to incorporate parking garage ventilation as environmental air as described in International Mechanical Code. Currently the City of Austin ordinance has not viewed it as environmentally air which mainly impacts exhaust and its clearance to building openings, location, property lines and ROW. DSD staff will review the 10ft minimum requirement to allow 3ft for exhaust termination and to provide a draft of the code interpretation and present it to the board.
 - c. **Air Test-** DSD staff and Board agreed to leave it as is and will review it at later date.
 - d. **Beth Culver-Building Official-** presented herself to the board and reviewed her work history. Beth is a licensed architect in Texas and has been with the City of Austin DSD staff for 5 years. Prior to her becoming the first female building official of a major city, Beth was the Chief Plans Examiner for Development Services.
4. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**
 - a. **Draft Interpretation of Garage/Exhaust Intake.**
5. **ADJOURN** – Board member Cooper made a motion to adjourn and Chair Thornton second the motion. Motion pass 8-0.